

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on August 22, 2003. Claims 1, 13, 20 and 22 have been amended, and claims 1-24 remain in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments, as well as the following remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in complete condition for allowance and request reconsideration of the application in this regard.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-22 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§ 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schey, U.S. Patent No. 1,480,119 in view of Eason, U.S. Patent No. 3,854,392. Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§ 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schey in view of Eason and further in view of Hunot et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,393,971. Lastly, claims 9 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schey in view of Eason and further in view of Troiel, U.S. Patent No. 1,630,644. While Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, Applicants have amended the claims to more sharply define the present invention over the prior art of record and respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn.

In particular, Applicants have amended each of independent claims 1, 13, 20 and 22 to recite that the housing includes a pair of spaced apart side walls. Each of these claims has further been amended to recite that the roller tiers are

supported by and extend between the pair of spaced apart side walls of the housing.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Schey and Eason as applied in the Office Action fails to teach or suggest the combination of elements or steps now recited in amended independent claims 1, 13, 20 and 22 and the rejections of these claims should be withdrawn. Moreover, as claims 2-12, 14-19, 21 and 23-24 depend from allowable independent claims 1, 13, 20 and 22, respectively, and further as each of these claims recites a combination of elements not taught or suggested by the prior art of record, Applicants submit that these claims are allowable as well.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing response including the amendments and remarks, this application is submitted to be in complete condition for allowance and early notice to this affect is earnestly solicited. If there is any issue that remains which may be resolved by telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned in order to resolve the same and expedite the allowance of this application.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-3000 in the amount of \$55.00 for the one month extension fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Should any additional fees be required, authorization is hereby given to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.

By 

David H. Brinkman

Reg. No. 40,532

2700 Carew Tower
441 Vine Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
(513) 241-2324 - Voice
(513) 421-7269 - Facsimile